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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A. Washington, D. C. July 16, 1954SS140

1954 Another Big Crop Year

Another large volume of crops is expected in 1954, practically as large as in 1952 and 1953, but about 3 percent less than the 1948 record. The all-crop index for 1954 is 102 percent of the 1947-49 average. This compares with indexes of 103 percent in both 1952 and 1953, and the record of 106 percent in 1948. The tentative yield index, at 109 percent of the 1947-49 base, is 1 point higher than the previous record set in 1948.

Crop Acreage for Harvest Larger Than in 1953

Acreages of wheat and cotton were reduced sharply under the Government production control programs, but acreages of most other crops were larger than in 1953. Despite reductions of about 20 million acres in crops under allotment, nearly 358 million acres of crops were planted or growing this season, only about a million acres less than the average or the 1953 total. Acreage losses are expected to total about 16.4 million acres. Thus 341.4 million acres of crops are expected to be harvested in 1954--a million more than in 1953, but 3.7 million acres less than the 1943-52 average.

Here are production estimates for important crops as of July 1:

Million bushels

Corn, all	3,311	4% above 1953; 2d largest
Wheat, all	988	15% below 1953
Oats	1,545	largest of record; 27% above 1953
Barley	372.5	55% above 1953
Rye	23.1	28% above 1953; 4% above average
Potatoes	346	16% below average
Sweetpotatoes	32.7	2/3 of average
Flaxseed	50.4	35% over average

Million 100-lb. bags

Rice	60.2	15% above record 1953 crop
Beans, dry edible	18.7	up 3% from 1953
Peas, dry edible	3.8	up 13% from 1953

Million tons

Hay, all	107.5	3d largest of record
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Million pounds

Tobacco	2,022	2% below 1953
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Large Feed Crops

Feed grains make up a major proportion of the all-crop volume. They include the second-largest corn crop, a record outturn of oats, a barley crop much larger than average. Sorghum is being grown on a near-record acreage, but yield prospects are uncertain. The hay crop is the third largest on record and will be fairly well distributed according to needs, except where drought is currently severe.

Food Grain Total Declines

Food grains make up a smaller part of the all-crop volume than usual, with a below-average wheat crop. However, the rye crop is the largest for several years and rice continues its series of record-breaking outturns. The buckwheat crop is expected to be small.

Second Largest Corn Crop in Prospect

Another large corn crop--3,311 million bushels--is in prospect. This would be 4 percent larger than the 1953 crop, and the second largest of record. A yield of 41.3 bushels per harvested acre is now indicated, which would be exceeded only by the 42.5 bushels obtained in 1948; it is 5.6 bushels above average.

Current Indexes for Agriculture

Index Numbers	Base Period	June, 1954
Prices received by farmers.....	1910-14=100	248
Prices paid by farmers, interest, taxes & wage rates.....	1910-14=100	282
Parity ratio.....	1910-14=100	88
Farm wage rates.....	1910-14=100	¹ 505
Wholesale prices of food.....	1947-49=100	² 105
Retail prices of food.....	1947-49=100	² 113
Weekly factory earnings.....	1947-49=100	² 135

Production Comparisons

Item	Jan. -June, 1953	Jan. -June, 1954
Milk, (bil. lb.).....	63.5	66.1
Eggs, (bil.).....	33.9	35.1
Beef, (dr. wt., mil. lb.).....	³ 3,615	³ 3,882
Pork & lard (mil. lb.).....	³ 4,302	³ 3,818
Lamb & mutton, (dr. wt., mil. lb.)....	³ 272	³ 269
All meats, (dr. wt., mil. lb.).....	³ 8,469	³ 8,297

¹ July figure.

² May figure.

³ January-May under Federal inspection.

Below Average Wheat Crop

A total wheat crop of 988 million bushels is expected--11 million bushels below the June 1 forecast, and 15 percent smaller than the 1953 crop. Improvement occurred during June in production prospects for winter wheat, but rust infestation has lowered prospective spring wheat production, especially in the Dakotas. Total acreage of wheat harvested for grain in 1954 is expected to be the smallest since 1943. Abandonment of winter wheat has been moderately heavy this year with losses of acreage in the southern Great Plains making up most of the total.

Cotton Acreage Down 21 Percent From 1953

Cotton in cultivation July 1, 1954, is estimated at 19,961,000 acres--21 percent less than a year earlier. The acreage in cultivation July 1 is about 93 percent of the 1954 allotment of 21.4 million acres. For the period 1944-53, abandonment of acreage in cultivation July 1 from natural causes averaged 2.8 percent. The acreage removed from production for compliance purposes averaged 1.8 percent during the 1939-42 and 1950 allotment programs. American-Egyptian cotton also is under allotment this year. The acreage in cultivation July 1 is estimated at 33,300 acres compared with 92,600 acres a year earlier.

Oilseeds

Oilseed production will be large, in spite of the reduction in cotton acreage to a fifth less than in 1953. The record acreage of soybeans and the favorable conditions under which the crop was planted and has developed point to a probable record output. The estimated 50-million-bushel flaxseed production would be the second-largest of record. Peanut acreage is about 2 percent larger than in 1953.

Hay, Pasture, Range

Hay harvest made usual progress throughout the country in June, with generally favorable curing weather. The total crop in prospect on July 1 is estimated at 107.5 million tons--third largest of record.

Pasture condition July 1 at 78 was 2 points better than a year earlier, but 8 points below average.

Range pastures improved sharply in northern range States and in northern Nebraska, but drought intensified in Colorado, central and southwest Wyoming, and much of New Mexico. Livestock are in generally good condition.

Tobacco Crop About Average

A tobacco crop of 2,022 million pounds is estimated, nearly as large as in 1953 and as the average. Flue-cured and light air-cured production is expected to be below 1953; all other classes show an increase.

Fruit

Deciduous fruits have developed satisfactorily and production may be 1 percent larger than in 1953.

Prices Received and Prices Paid by Farmers

Index Numbers, 1910-14 = 100

Item	June 1953	May 1954	June 1954
Prices received by farmers	257	258	248
Crops	246	249	244
Food grains	222	227	216
Feed grains and hay	204	207	205
Tobacco	425	446	445
Cotton	267	272	274
Fruit	219	215	240
Coml. veg. for fresh mkt ...	298	279	200
Oil-bearing crops	280	286	283
Livestock and products	267	267	251
Meat animals	300	331	299
Dairy products	255	230	229
Poultry and eggs	213	168	168
Prices paid by farmers:			
All commodities	260	267	264
Commodities used in living .	271	276	275
Commodities used in pro-			
duction	1247	256	252
All commodities, interest,			
taxes, and wage rates	277	284	282
Parity ratio (prices received to			
prices paid by farmers)	93	91	88

¹ Revised

Parity Prices for Farm Products and Average Prices Received by Farmers

Commodity and unit	Average price		Parity price
	May 15, 1954	June 15, 1954	June 15, 1954
Wheat, bu. dol.	2.00	1.91	2.49
Corn, bu. dol.	1.47	1.49	1.81
Peanuts, lb. ct.	11.2	11.2	13.5
Cotton, Amer. upland, lb. ... ct.	32.17	32.31	34.97
Potatoes, bu. dol.	1.34	1.51	1.51
Hogs, 100 lb. dol.	25.70	21.70	20.70
Beef cattle, 100 lb. dol.	17.60	16.90	21.20
Calves, 100 lb. dol.	18.40	17.50	23.30
Lambs, 100 lb. dol.	21.80	20.30	23.00
Butterfat, lb. ct.	56.2	55.9	74.7
Milk, wholesale, 100 lb. ... dol.	3.51	13.48	4.74
Chickens, live, lb. ct.	22.5	22.6	29.9
Eggs, doz. ct.	33.1	32.9	46.8

¹ Preliminary.

However, the outturn of each kind of deciduous fruit will be below average. Production of apples will be larger than in 1953 and grapes will be about the same as in 1953. But crops of peaches, pears, cherries, and plums will be smaller and the apricot crop will be much smaller than in 1953. The outlook for the 1954-55 citrus crop is good.

Vegetables

Supplies of commercial vegetables and melons for fresh market will be 5 percent larger than last summer and 9 percent above average. These crops will be grown on nearly a million acres, 5 percent more than in 1953.

Vegetables for processing are being grown on an acreage about 5 percent smaller than in 1953 and 8 percent below average.

Grain Stocks on Farms July 1

Mil. bu.

Corn for grain	986	Third largest stocks
Wheat (old crop)	103	25% above average
Oats (old crop)	204	10% below average
Barley (old crop)	34.9	37% above 1953; a fifth below average
Rye (old crop)	2.8	Double year ago; nearly fifth below average
Flaxseed (old crop)	4.5	More than double average
Soybeans	3.6	Smallest July 1 stocks
The aggregate of farm stocks of grains and oilseeds is only slightly larger than a year earlier.		

Egg Production Above Average

Farm flocks laid 5,251 million eggs in June--4 percent more than in June 1953 and 3 percent above the 1943-52 average. Rate of egg production in June was 16.8 eggs per layer, compared with 16.6 last year and the average of 15.9 eggs. The average number of layers in June was 313,495,000--3 percent more than last year, but 3 percent below the 10-year average.

Second Largest June Milk Production

Milk production passed its seasonal peak in early June and turned downward more rapidly than usual under influence of hot, dry weather in many areas. June milk output totaled 12,740 million pounds, the second largest production for the month in 25 years of records, exceeded only in 1945. January-June production totaled 66.1 billion pounds, 2.6 billion pounds more than in the first half of 1953.

12 Percent More Pigs in 1954 Than in 1953

The 1954 spring pig crop totaled 56,066,000 head, an increase of 13 percent from last spring. The number of sows farrowed this spring was 11 percent larger than last spring, and the number of pigs saved per litter is the highest on record. For the coming fall crop, reports on breeding intentions indicate a total of 5,260,000 sows to farrow, 10 percent above the number farrowing last fall. The combined 1954 spring and fall pig crop is now expected to be about 91 million head--12 percent more than last year but 2 percent below the 1943-52 average. The number of hogs 6 months old and over on farms and ranches June 1 was 7 percent below last year and 33 percent below the 10-year average.

More Hired Workers; Wage Rates Lower

More persons were employed as hired workers on farms in late June than a year earlier but there were about 200,000 fewer family workers than a year ago, which more than offset the increase in the number of hired workers. A little over 9½ million people were at work on farms; about 7 million were farm operators and unpaid members of their families. In comparison with a month earlier, the total number of persons working on farms was up about the usual 4 percent.

Wage rates of hired farm workers were 2 percent lower than a year earlier. The average of all rates on an hourly basis was 66.3 cents compared with 67.5 cents a year earlier.

CURRENT ESTIMATES

Cash Receipts From Farm Marketings, by States, May 1954.^{1 2}

State	Livestock and products	Crops	Total
	\$ Thous.	\$ Thous.	\$ Thous.
Maine	7,776	3,962	11,738
New Hampshire	4,346	594	4,940
Vermont	9,060	1,147	10,207
Massachusetts	10,432	4,109	14,541
Rhode Island	1,481	417	1,898
Connecticut	8,951	4,293	13,244
New York	50,679	12,901	63,580
New Jersey	17,248	9,858	27,106
Pennsylvania	47,245	11,125	58,370
North Atlantic	157,218	48,406	205,624
Ohio	60,276	21,805	82,081
Indiana	60,685	16,243	76,928
Illinois	103,007	60,543	163,550
Michigan	36,870	13,848	50,718
Wisconsin	82,510	4,959	87,469
East North Central	343,348	117,398	460,746
Minnesota	77,647	19,729	97,376
Iowa	167,284	29,529	196,813
Missouri	62,053	7,245	69,298
North Dakota	9,256	19,594	28,850
South Dakota	26,644	8,658	35,302
Nebraska	77,603	15,414	93,017
Kansas	37,035	17,542	54,577
West North Central	457,522	117,711	575,233
Delaware	6,332	1,087	7,419
Maryland	14,611	13,223	27,834
Virginia	20,512	5,504	26,016
West Virginia	7,635	1,446	9,081
North Carolina	17,939	15,551	33,490
South Carolina	7,470	5,595	13,065
Georgia	21,763	8,657	30,420
Florida	10,413	70,375	80,788
South Atlantic	106,675	121,438	228,113
Kentucky	21,525	3,420	24,945
Tennessee	20,025	6,756	26,781
Alabama	14,775	7,857	22,632
Mississippi	13,341	4,830	18,171
Arkansas	15,370	9,388	24,758
Louisiana	9,450	5,984	15,434
Oklahoma	22,388	3,628	26,016
Texas	76,815	19,922	96,737
South Central	193,689	61,785	255,474
Montana	5,593	8,502	14,095
Idaho	10,971	1,036	12,007
Wyoming	4,752	-620	4,132
Colorado	23,215	4,880	28,095
New Mexico	7,416	1,724	9,140
Arizona	12,710	8,067	20,777
Utah	8,407	768	9,175
Nevada	2,889	163	3,052
Washington	14,836	7,172	22,008
Oregon	13,724	5,131	18,855
California	80,458	85,874	166,332
Western Region	184,971	122,697	307,668
United States	1,443,423	589,435	2,032,858

¹ All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month.

² For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

Cash Receipts From Farming, United States¹

Source	May 1954	June 1954 ²
	<i>Mil. dol.</i>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>
Farm marketings and CCC loans ³ ..	2,033	2,100
Livestock and products	1,444	1,300
Meat animals	757	
Dairy products	389	
Poultry and eggs	258	
Other	40	
Crops	589	800
Food grains	70	
Feed crops	146	
Cotton (lint and seed)	13	
Oil-bearing crops	46	
Tobacco	14	
Vegetables	116	
Fruits and tree nuts	93	
Other	91	
Government payments	29	
Total cash receipts	2,062	

¹For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

²Preliminary.

³Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Marketing Margin and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's
Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost ¹	Farm value ²	Marketing margin	Farmer's share
1953 average	\$1,002	\$452	\$550	45%
1953--May	994	451	543	45
1954--April ³	984	443	541	45
May ⁴	989	439	550	44

¹Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per urban wage-earner and clerical-worker family in 1952, calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

²Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

³Revised.

⁴Preliminary.

For comparisons with earlier months and years see The Marketing and Transportation Situation.

Index numbers of animal units of breeding livestock and livestock production per breeding unit, United States¹

(1947-49=100)

Item	1953	Indicated 1954
Animal units of breeding livestock ² .	103	107
Livestock production per breeding unit ²	111	111

Prepared jointly by ARS and AMS.

¹Indications for 1954 based on various reports of the Agricultural Estimates Division, AMS. For historical data and explanation of indexes see "Changes in Farm Production and Efficiency", PERB 3, ARS (in press).

²Animal units and production exclude horses and mules.

Farm Production: Index numbers of total output, and gross production of livestock and crops, United States¹

(1947-49=100)

Item	1953	Indicated 1954
Farm output	108	109
All livestock and products	114	119
All crops	103	102
Feed used by farm horses and mules ²	57	51

Prepared jointly by Agricultural Research Service and AMS.

¹Indications for 1954 based on July, 1954 "Crop Production" report and other releases of the Agricultural Estimates Division, AMS. For historical data and explanation of indexes see "Changes in Farm Production and Efficiency", PERB 3, ARS (in press).

²Hay and concentrates only. Not included in farm output.

Index numbers of cropland used, and crop production per acre, United States¹

(1947-49=100)

Item	1953	Indicated 1954
Cropland used	100	100
Crop production per acre	103	102

Prepared jointly by Agricultural Research Service and AMS.

¹Indications for 1954 based chiefly on the July 1954 "Crop Production" report of the Agricultural Estimates Division, AMS. For historical data and explanation of indexes see "Changes in Farm Production and Efficiency", PERB 3, ARS (in press). The index of crop production per acre is a ratio of total crop production to total land used for crops. It differs from the AMS index of yields per harvested acre of 28 crops.

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